**Ames**

Total nonfarm employment dropped by 1,700 jobs in the Ames area in January, lowering the total to 52,600 jobs. This month’s drop is slightly lower than usual and was fueled by seasonal declines in both public and private education. State government’s seasonal drop led to a loss of 1,200 in government. Private services shed 400 jobs and goods-producing industries pared 100.

Annually, nonfarm employment remains up 800 jobs. Government has added 500 jobs at the state government level due primarily to hiring within education. Goods-producing industries are up 200 jobs and private services are up 100 jobs.

**Cedar Rapids**

The Cedar Rapids metropolitan statistical area shed 2,500 nonfarm jobs from December, and now stands at 142,300. The over-the-month change is significantly lower than the ten year average December to January change of 3,620. Total nonfarm employment in the metro area is 600 above one year ago.

Trade, transportation and warehousing experienced the greatest loss, shedding 800 jobs in an expected seasonal decline. Government, and mining and construction each pared 600 jobs, also results of seasonal demands. Professional and business services is the only sector with a jobs gain from last month, adding 300 jobs.

Mining and construction employment is nearly 8.6% (600 jobs) above one year ago. However, professional and business services added 900 jobs (6.6%) from one year ago to lead all sectors in number of jobs added. Information has shed 9.1% of its employment from one year ago.

**Des Moines MSA**

# The Des Moines Metropolitan Statistical Area experienced a drop of 6,500 jobs in January, lowering nonfarm employment down to 355,100 jobs. Much of the decline is seasonal and expected. In fact, this month’s drop is 1,000 jobs lower than the prior ten year average. Private sectors pared a total of 5,900 jobs and government shed 600 jobs, although government remains up 300 annually and private sectors have added 6,700 jobs.

# Trade and transportation shed the most jobs this month (-2,300) due to seasonal layoffs in the retail sector (-1,600). Although this monthly drop was expected, both trade and transportation and transportation combined trail last year’s level by 400 and 300 jobs, respectively. Mining, logging, and construction was heavily influenced by seasonal layoffs in the construction sector and dropped by 1,900 jobs. This loss was slightly more than average; however, this sector has been booming throughout 2016 and remains up 2,800 jobs. Smaller declines this month included professional and business services (-700), and education and healthcare services (-600). Leisure and hospitality was the lone sector not to seasonally pare jobs this month and actually showed signs of hiring within food service and drinking establishments.

# Annually, nonfarm employment in the Des Moines area has added 7,000 jobs. As previously mentioned, the largest single gain comes from the construction sector (+2,800), although virtually all other sectors have advanced over the last twelve months. Leisure and hospitality has benefitted from agreeable weather and is up 1,600 jobs followed by professional and business services (+1,100). The only sectors down since last January are information (-400) and trade, transportation and utilities (-300).

# Dubuque

The Dubuque Metro total nonfarm employment shed 1,200 jobs in January and now rests at 59,500 jobs. Private services combined shed 900 jobs which was lower than seasonally expected, and goods-producing industries were down 300 jobs. Government was unchanged since December.

Annually, the Dubuque area remains up 700 jobs. Private services have gained 600 jobs to fuel much of the growth. Goods-producing industries are up slightly (+100) while government remains unchanged.

**Iowa City**

Nonfarm employment in the Iowa City metropolitan statistical area pared 600 jobs from last month. Job losses were spread amongst nearly every sector, with government and professional and business services being the only exceptions. Government added 300 jobs and professional and business services was unchanged. Trade, transportation and warehousing is down 900 jobs. An additional 400 jobs were pared from leisure and hospitality.

The metro area has added 3,400 jobs from one year ago, boosted by a gain of 1,700 in government and smaller gains in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality and trade, transportation and warehousing. Goods producing has also added 100 jobs.

**Sioux City**

*The Sioux City MSA has been redefined. It now includes: Dixon and Dakota Counties in Nebraska, Union County in South Dakota, and Woodbury and Plymouth Counties in Iowa.*

# Employment in the Sioux City MSA is down 1,900 jobs from December. Goods producing shed 400 jobs although manufacturing enjoyed a small increase. Professional and business services, leisure and hospitality and government each contributed to the loss, paring 100, 200 and 300 jobs, respectively. Manufacturing is the only sector with a gain, adding 100 additional jobs in non-durable goods.

# Overall, the area has 1,200 fewer jobs from one year ago. Goods-producing has pared 1,500 jobs, including 100 from manufacturing. Trade, transportation and warehousing and professional and business services each added jobs from one year ago.

# Waterloo/Cedar Falls

The Waterloo/Cedar Falls metropolitan statistical area’s total nonfarm employment is down 3,500 jobs from the previous month and stands at 88,500. The change is nearly equal to the ten year average December to January change.

The largest decrease occurred in state government (-1,200) and is seasonal in nature. Trade, transportation and warehousing pared 800 jobs due partially to a loss of 300 jobs in retail trade. This is not an unusual December to January change for the industry. Smaller losses were seen in every other sector. There were no sectors with employment gains.

Over the year, employment is down 800 jobs. Government, education and health services, and trade, transportation and warehousing each added a small number of jobs. Those gains were negated by losses in leisure and hospitality (-300), manufacturing (-200), financial activities (-200) and professional and business services (-100).